

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal First Mode

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is co-beginningless God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

Apolytikion for Great Martyr Procopius in the Fourth Mode

Thy Martyr, O Lord, in his courageous contest for Thee received the prize of the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. For since he possessed Thy strength, he cast down the tyrants and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. O Christ God, by his prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

Apolytikion of the Church in the Fourth Mode

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit; and they were assured by the blessing that Thou are the Son of God and Redeemer of the world.

Ἀνελήφθης ἐν δόξῃ, Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, χαροποιήσας τοὺς Μαθητάς, τῇ ἐπαγγελίᾳ τοῦ ἁγίου Πνεύματος· βεβαιωθέντων αὐτῶν διὰ τῆς εὐλογίας, ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὁ λυτρωτὴς τοῦ κόσμου.

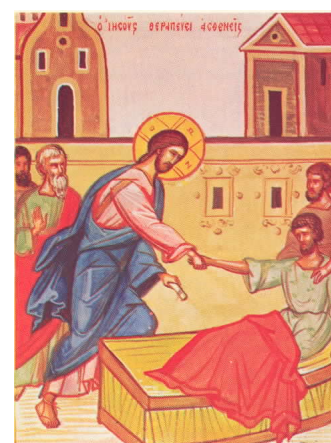
Seasonal Kontakion in the Second Mode

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 12:6-14.

Brethren, having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

The Gospel of Matthew 9:1-8



At that time, getting into a boat Jesus crossed over and came to His own city. And behold, they brought to Him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith He said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say 'Rise and walk?' But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" he then said to the paralytic -- "Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church



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WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN July 8 - 15, 2018

Welcome To Our Visitors

WELCOME TO THE ASCENSION PARISH. Your presence has brought us much joy. We hope your visit is memorable and meaningful in every way. Our doors and hearts are always open to you. Please join us for fellowship following the Divine Liturgy and visit with Fr. Sotiri and with members of the Parish Council. They will answer questions and provide you with information regarding the programs and life at the Ascension.

Spiritual Reflection

‘ . . . every spiritual work is a ministry. . . It is not enough to give, but we must also do it with magnanimity, for this always answers to the name of simplicity. . . It is not enough to show mercy, but it behooves us to do it with openhandedness and an ungrudging spirit. . . even with a cheerful and rejoicing one. . . He said, "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully" (II Cor. 9:6)

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	July 8	6th Sunday of Matthew
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	Coffee Fellowship hosted by Kathie Rutkowski and Carol Stamas
1 p.m.	Baptism: Gabriella, daughter of Christopher & Stephanie Karahalios	<i>Sponsors: Sasha & Vasiliki Zeceovich</i>
Tuesday	July 10	
7 p.m.	Parish Council Meeting	
Sunday	July 15	Sunday of the Holy Fathers
8:15 a.m.	Orthros	
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	Coffee Fellowship

Holy Communion Etiquette

- + If you are either baptized and/or confirmed as an Orthodox Christian and have spiritually prepared to receive Holy Communion, please come up with reverence and humility, row by row, and depart as directed by the ushers.
- + Prior to receiving Holy Communion, we will recite together the *Prayers Before Receiving Holy Communion* on page 61 in the Divine Liturgy book found near the candle stand by the entrance of the school. Following Holy Communion, it is customary for the faithful to silently recite the *Prayers of Thanksgiving*, on page 73.
- + In receiving Communion, you should place the cloth under your chin, recite your CHRISTIAN NAME, and wipe your mouth after receiving. If you are wearing lipstick please remove it prior to receiving Communion.
- + Whether you are an Orthodox Christian or not, please come forward at the dismissal to receive the blessed bread which is offered to everyone who worships with us. May the blessings of Christ be with you.

Our Sunday Volunteers

Prospora: Iliana Radaios & Elaine Stevens
Epistle Reader: David Rutkowski
Greeters: Chris & Jayne Chatzidakis
Ushers: David Rutkowski (UIC), Kathie Rutkowski, Carol Stamas, Demetri Katsulis, Diane Sigalos, Bill Athenson, Jeannie Thomas, Tom Vabakos

Prayer Requests for Health

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PERSONAL PRAYERS the servants of God: Eleni, George, Louise, Anastasia, Stella, Mitchell, Joanne, Panagiotis, Christina, Dee, Helen, Sophia, Connie, Janet, Anthony, Fred, Katerini, James, Theresa, Peter, Anna, Don, Nace

Announcements

- + **ANNOUNCING ASCENSION OF OUR LORD FIRST ANNUAL MEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT!!** Hosted by Koinonia Men's Ministry, this event is open to all men of Ascension. The theme of the retreat is *Becoming Better Husbands, Fathers, Brothers and Friends*, and our featured speakers will be Fr. Sotirios and Fr. Grenaias. Please join us on Saturday, September 15th at 8 a.m. - 4 at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center, Kansasville, WI. Cost, which includes breakfast and lunch, is \$50. Please RSVP by September 9th, or, register by August 10th to receive the early bird rate of \$40. For more information, contact David Rutkowski at 847-650-0559; or, stop by the registration table after Church.
- + **REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR ASCENSION'S YOUTH AND ADULT GREEK SCHOOL PROGRAMS** Visit the Greek School webpage on our website for more information and to register for the 2018/19 Greek School program. Registration will take place online this year. Also new for this upcoming school year: a new series of books will be used with access to a digital platform for children to practice and learn at both school and home! Informational open houses will take place for both the Youth and Adult Greek School the first week of September, with classes beginning the week of September 10th. We encourage you to register as soon as possible to secure enrollment so we can adequately prepare for classes prior to the first day. Payment details are set forth in the registration material. For more information, visit the website or call the church office. Thank you!
- + **ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF SAINT MARDARIJE OF LIBERTYVILLE** will take place next weekend, July 14 and 15 at the St. Sava Monastery, 32377 N. Milwaukee Ave., Libertyville. For more information, visit www.stsavamonastery.org
- + **SAVE-THE-DATE: MARRIAGE MINISTRY SUMMER GATHERING!** The Marriage Ministry will be holding its next social event at Pinstripes bowling alley, (1150 Willow Road, Northbrook) on Friday, July 20th at 7:30 p.m. Please join us for some bowling, food, and mid-summer fellowship! For more information, contact Loukas Jonson at loukasjonson@gmail.com.
- + **DON'T MISS THE 3rd ANNUAL MID-SUMMER SOCIAL, July 29th!** Sponsored by Men's Koinonia, this gathering gives the families and youth in our Parish the opportunity to enjoy ice cream, hotdogs, fun and fellowship immediately following Liturgy. We hope to see you there!
- + **UPCOMING GREEK FESTIVALS: Support our local Metropolis Churches and celebrate summer Greek-style!**

July 7-8: St. Andrew's Greek Fest, Chicago	July 13 – 15: St. Demetrios, Libertyville
July 7-8: St. Spyridon, Palos Heights	July 20 – 22: Assumption, Homer Glen
July 13-15: St. Sophia, Elgin	July 21 – 22: SS. Peter & Paul, Glenview
July 13-15: St. Haralambos, Niles	July 27 – 29: St. Demetrios, Chicago
- + **SAVE THE DATE: THE FAMILY SYNAXIS RETREAT** will be held on Labor Day weekend, August 31 – September 3, at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center. More details to come!

From the Life and Miracles of St. John, Archbishop of Shanghai and San Francisco, the Wonderworker

One night, St. John Maximovich went out; he used to collect orphans from the street. On this night a deacon was with him. They heard a baby cry and they walked up to a garbage bin and looked inside and there was a baby boy in the bin. St. John said to the deacon to pick up this child, but the deacon said, "But Vladyka, he is Chinese!" St. John walked up and looked at the child and said, "Ah! He is born in the image of God!" And that was St. John's life. Looking at every soul as coming from God, all in the image of God whether they were Russian, American, Aboriginal or Australian. Dark colour or light coloured people, St. John wanted to bring to Christ all people through the true Orthodox Gospel.